ping/response schedules for the critical processes to maximize efficiency. As a result, the process monitoring may be scheduled to occur in more distinct, consolidated, wake times, and the process monitoring process itself may be permitted to render itself inactive for longer periods of time. These longer periods of time decrease the amount of power necessary to operate the underlying device, and as such, the use life of a device may be advantageously increased.

The discussion above provides example aspects and embodiments of the present invention, but the invention is not limited to the particular configurations disclosed. Rather, the disclosed embodiments are merely example embodiments. Those skilled in the relevant arts will readily appreciate the fact that many variations to the disclosed embodiments may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention. For example, one or more of the disclosed aspects or embodiments may be combined with one or more other aspects or embodiments.